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**Cc:** CN=Brian Frazer/OU=DC/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA;CN=Christopher Hunter/OU=DC/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]; N=Christopher Hunter/OU=DC/O=USEPA/C=US@EPA[]  
**From:** CN=Rachel Fertik/OU=DC/O=USEPA/C=US  
**Sent:** Thur 1/6/2011 9:17:38 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Fw: Bristol Bay Update from today's team call

Thanks, Palmer. Useful intro information. I'll take a look at the PowerPoints and then other materials on the G as time permits.  
The Wednesday meeting is on my calendar.

I'm definitely looking forward to rolling up my sleeves and digging in.

- Rachel

From: Palmer Hough/DC/USEPA/US  
To: Rachel Fertik/DC/USEPA/US@EPA  
Cc: Brian Frazer/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Christopher Hunter/DC/USEPA/US@EPA  
Date: 01/06/2011 02:27 PM  
Subject: Fw: Bristol Bay Update from today's team call

Rachel:

Here is the latest update on the BB effort from yesterday's first team call.

I've been saving BB related materials in this file on the G drive: G:\Wetlands Division\WARRB\Program Ops Team\Cases\Bristol Bay AK - Pebble Deposit

For background, I'd start with the powerpoint briefings saved there.

It's gonna be fun.

-Palmer

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----- Forwarded by Palmer Hough/DC/USEPA/US on 01/06/2011 02:25 PM -----

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Code/DC/USEPA/US@EPA  
Date: 01/05/2011 03:56 PM  
Subject: Re: Bristol Bay Update from today's team call

Thanks Palmer, very informative, and all sounds to be proceeding in way we are comfortable with.

Dave

David Evans, Director  
Wetlands Division  
Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds  
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From: Palmer Hough/DC/USEPA/US  
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Folks:

Today, R10 hosted the first of what it thinks will likely be weekly calls for the Team working on the Bristol Bay effort. Richard Parkin, the overall team lead, led the call. Below is a list of other team members and agenda topics from today.

Richard gave everyone an update regarding where things stand since the November briefing with the Administrator. Since November there have been a number of conversations between EPA (R10 and HQ) and Officials from Alaska. During one of these recent calls, Alaska reps made their case for EPA to not pursue its proposed "public process". As you recall this public process was envisioned to help inform an EPA decision regarding whether or not to initiate an advance 404(c) in the BB per the request of numerous stakeholders. Richard noted that the state offered an alternative "hybrid process" and after reflection and continued discussion with the state, EPA determined that this process would not be appropriate b/c, among other shortcomings, it did not offer a clear and responsive role for the tribes (who have petitioned for EPA action). Richard noted that it is EPA's desire to have a cooperative relationship with the state on this effort so, EPA went back with a counterproposal that involves a public process that would afford both the state and the tribes meaningful roles. R10 expects to hear back from the state this week regarding its response to this new proposal for a collaborative public process.

Meanwhile work is already underway on the qualitative risk analysis for the BB watershed through a contract with NatureServe. R10 decided this analysis would be extremely valuable for review of the mining proposals contemplated for the BB, regardless of whether or not EPA initiates a 404(c) action in the BB

There was also a discussion about records management, communication and information sharing among the team members. The next call is set for Wed 1/12 at 1 PM ET (proposed regular time).

Please let me know if you have any questions.

-Palmer

Richard Parkin - Overall Team Lead  
Michael Szerlog - 404 management support  
Mary Anne Thiesing - 404 policy support  
Patty McGrath - Mining support

Cara Steiner-Riley - Legal Lead  
David Allnutt - management and legal support

Phil North - Technical Lead  
Heather Dean - project support  
Gary Sonnevill (SEE)- project support  
Dave Athons (SEE) - project support

Marianne Holsman - Public Affairs Lead

Bill Dunbar - Congressional Affairs Lead

Palmer Hough - HQ Wetlands  
Heidi Karp - OGC

Agenda:

Meet and Greet - get to know the team - some are new to the agency and others new to the issue - All  
Roles and Responsibilities - Rick Parkin  
Status update on what folks have been working on - 5 to 10 minutes each round robin style - All  
Legal Reminders- Cara Steiner-Riley.  
Next Steps - Rick Parkin

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